Government that India had some differences with the U.S.A.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) P.M. had stated at the Press Conference that "Our relations with the United States have vastly improved, despite the differences on certain issues".

3135. *[Withdrawn]*

Review of bilateral relations with member countries of O.I.C.

3136. MISS. SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to review their bilateral relations with each country belonging to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (O.I.C.) which have taken an anti-India attitude on the Kashmir issue as per the newsitem entitled "Stance on Kashmir: Policy change likely with O.I.C." which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 20th June, 1992; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. We have conveyed in suitable terms to the Governments of the Member States of the OIC that their stance at the OIC in regard to Kashmir will be taken note of in the context of bilateral relations.

Indian council for cultural relations

3137. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present managerial composition of Indian Council for Cultural Relations;

(b) the expenditure incurred by the Council during the last three years, yearwise, particularly on hosting foreign troupes; and

(c) the number of Indian troupes sent abroad and the expenditure incurred on them during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The authorities of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations are:

(1) General Assembly

(2) Governing Body

(3) Finance Committee

(4) Any other Committee which the President, General Assembly, Governing Body may set up for discharging any of the functions of the Council.

The Council has a permanent secretariat and the Director General is the Principal Executive Officer of the Council. The Director General is an ex-officio member of all bodies established under the constitution of the ICCR.

(b) The expenditure incurred by the Council during the last three years, yearwise, on hosting foreign troupes is:

1989-90	Rs.	262,47,449.18
1990-91	Rs.	384.44,205,19
1991-92	Rs.	193,27,060,74

(c) Number of Indian troupes sent abroad and te expenditure incurred them during the same period is as follows:

1989-90 (83 delegations)	Rs 1,53,74,445
1990-91 (63 delegations)	Rs 1,47,71,444
1991-92 (93 delegations)	Rs 1,67,38,807

Invitation to Pak Army Chief to visit India

3138. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pak Army Chief or the Pak Government have since responded to India's invitation extended to that

country's Army Chief to visit India in a major political initiative to improve bilateral relations; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) There has, so far, been no official response from the Government of Pakistan.

(b) Does not arise.

Visit of foreign minister of Iran

3139. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Minister of Iran Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati, visited New Delhi in May this year;

(b) if so, what were the main issues discussed with him and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the follow up steps, if any, since taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The Foreign Miniser of Iran paid an official visit to India on 18-19 May, 1992.

(b) Talks were held on promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields. Views were also exchanged on global issues of mutual interest, developments in the region and the Non-aligned Movement.

It was agreed that a multi-disciplinary delegation from India would visit Iran in July, 1992 to discuss specific projects which could be undertaken by India. Agreement was also reached on convening the next meeting of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission in November 1992, and on holding consultations on issues related to NAM prior to the Non-aligned Summit.

(c) Foreign Secretary visited Iran from 7-10 July, 1992. The decisions taken during this visit are under implementation.

Visit of Official Delegation to Israel

3140. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any official delegation has lately visited Tel Aviv for identifying areas of cooperation between India and Israel;

(b) if so, what areas of mutual cooperation between the two countries were identified; and

(c) the follow up action taken and being taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) An official delegation of the Ministry of External Affairs visited Israel in April 1992 to examine setting up the Indian Embassy and to discuss cooperation in general in areas such as agriculture, civil aviation, tourism, trade and industry.

(c) The Indian Embassy in Israel has been opened. Visits of delegations in civil aviation, tourism and agriculture have taken place. More visits from both sides are contemplated in future.

पूर्व सोवियत संघ से अलग हुए देशों से प्रधान मंत्री को निमंत्रण

3141. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रधान मंत्री को पूर्व सोवियत संघ से अलग हुए देशों में से किसी देश से निमंत्रण प्राप्त हुआ है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वे निकट भविष्य में रूस सहित उस क्षेत्र के किन-किन देशों का दौरा करने का विचार रखते हैं।